

## Remarks

Claims 1, 2, 5-14, 16, 18 and 19 are pending.

Claims 1, 2 and 7 are amended.

Claims 5, 6, 8-14, 16, 18 and 19 are as previously presented.

Claims 1 and 2 are amended to delete the word "optionally" from the description of layer (a), to delete the phrase "on one parallel face of the core or, if an SiO<sub>y</sub> layer is present" from the description of layer (b) and to delete the superfluous comma immediately following the designation "(c)".

Claim 7 is amended to delete the word "optionally" from step (c), to delete the phrase "onto the Al layer or, if present" from step (d) and to delete the term "SiO<sub>x</sub>-" from step (g). As the only flakes that can be isolated from the solvent are the aluminum flakes that are coated in the preceding steps, and the SiO<sub>y</sub> layer of step (c) is not optional, the term "SiO<sub>x</sub>-" is unnecessary and potentially confusing.

Support is inherent in the claims. No new matter is added.

## Rejections

Claims 1-3, 5-9, 14, 16, 18 and 19 are rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Bujard, et. al., US Pat Pub No. US 2005/0252410.

Claims 1, 2, 10 and 12 (20 had been cancelled) are rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Bujard, et. al., US Pat Pub No. US 2005/0287090.

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections.

Applicants appreciate the detail provided by the Examiner in the present Action and note with gratitude the Examiner's invitation for Applicants to file a declaration stating that disclosed but unclaimed material in the cited art was invented by an inventor of the instant application and therefore not by another. At this time however, it is Applicants preference to traverse the rejections with the above amendments as discussed below.

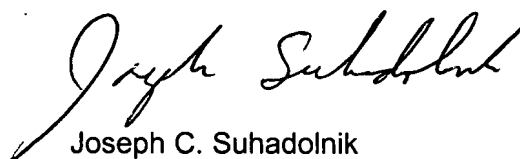
Claims 1, 2 and 7 are amended so that all the pigments in each of the currently pending claims necessarily contain a core of a metallically reflecting material, e.g., aluminum in claim 7, and on a face of the core, an SiO<sub>y</sub> layer, wherein y has the value as listed, and an SiO<sub>x</sub> layer, wherein x has the value as listed, on the SiO<sub>y</sub> layer.

In light of the instant amendments, Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are outside the disclosures of each of the references cited and that no anticipation by Bujard, et. al., US Pat Pub No. US 2005/0252410 or Bujard, et. al., US Pat Pub No. US 2005/0287090 exists.

Applicants therefore kindly ask that all rejections under 35 USC 102(e) be withdrawn and claims 1, 2, 5-14, 16, 18 and 19 be found allowable.

In the event that minor amendments will further prosecution, Applicants request that the examiner contact the undersigned representative.

Respectfully submitted,



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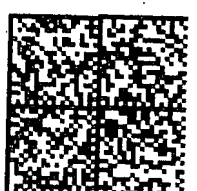
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